

Tangerine News

The Newsletter of St.Kevins Boys Club

September 2018

League Programme restarts after Summer Break

Following the two month (three for some teams) break to the new calendar season the games restarted at the end of August/beginning of September.

This break proved to be an issue for our teams for all sorts of reasons. Some teams decided to keep training despite lack of numbers due to holidays while others tried to keep fixtures going with friendlies etc. Some of our teams tried to keep their squads together by taking part in tournaments and a number of our teams found themselves adding silverware to our growing collection as they participated in the various tournaments

Overall this break wasn't helpful from all accounts as some teams find themselves short of players for the resumed league fixtures. We have found teams that had full squads just before the summer break looking to bring up players from other teams in order to have a matchday squad.

This is something that we feared with the change in the season as it is harder to keep squads together after any lengthy break.

Anyway, it is what it is as they say.



One of our teams that were active on the tournament circuit during the break were our Under 10 A Sunday team who added a fifth trophy of their busy summer campaign as they won the Kells Blackwater U10 Cup and who did they beat in the final Our Under 10A Saturday team!!!

Well done to both sets all players.

Our Under 11A team were winners in the Under 12 section of the Kells Blackwater tournament. This tournament used to be renowned as a great tournament for "pre-season" games and since the introduction of the calendar year football is proving to be a well regarded "mid-season break" warm up.

Our Under 15 Major were also winners in their section of the same tournament.



Our Under 15 Major looking confident before they won the tournament
Our Under 13 Premier won the Solidarity Cup in Bluebell United ground. This tournament is run annually to show solidarity with young footballers living in the besieged Gaza Strip in Israel.

The DB Sports Tournament provided us with great summer break wins as our Under 11s, Under 12, Under 13 and Under 14 Premier teams all finished winners in their respective fixtures.



The SFAI Regions Cup finals took place at the beginning of September and it turned out to be a very long day for all concerned. The planned kick off times were changed due to other games/training taking place in the venue, Abbotstown and it left our players hanging around for an inordinate length of time which never helps team preparation. Eventually the games went ahead to see our Under 12 DDSL Premier team overcome Cherry Orchard 5-0 to lift the trophy.

Our Under 13 DDSL Premier weren't so lucky. Finding themselves 3-0 down against St Josephs Boys they managed to drag the game back to 3-3, then went 4-3 up only to lose 5-4!

DB Sports Tours arranged for three of our teams to take part in an elite youth football tournament in Oakham near Leicester in England in August.

Our Under 12s, Under 13s including some of our 14s and Under 15s travelled to take part in the tournament and as ever did both themselves and St Kevins Boys proud.

We were asked to participate due to the high standard of our teams and their standing on the international schoolboy football stage and our teams did not disappoint the overall organisers, Specialist Soccer.

Over the course of the three days our Under 12s won six of the eight games they played included victories over Wolverhampton Wanderers, Leicester City and Peterborough.

Meanwhile our Under 13s/14s won five of their six games with the most impressive being a 3-1 win over Manchester United. They also secured victories over teams from the United States, Denmark and Japan but found a very strong Stoke City team in top form.

The Under 15s team managed to win five games, draw one and lose one so they came away with heads held high. The most impressive victory for this group of players was their 3-0 victory over Chelsea who were a bit shell shocked at their defeat! This team proved a real eye opener for the football scouts in attendance and a lot of interest was expressed in the players.

Just as we go to print our Under 15 SKB/Bohs team played Shamrock Rovers in St Aidans in front of the biggest crowd we have ever had for a game there.

As expected it was a tense affair with chances few and far between but thankfully SKB/Bohs came out 1-0 winners thanks to a goal from Ope Owolabi.

We fully expect both these teams to qualify from this group and possibly meet each other again in the final of the competition.

Under 14 Sunday 1 Team Lay Down a Marker



Our Under 14-4 team who play in the DDSL Sunday 1 league laid down a serious marker of their league campaign intentions with an emphatic 4-1 victory over Terenure Rangers in Ellenfield recently. The game had a delayed kick off due to a misunderstanding with the opposition and a change in referee was arranged in order that the fixture could proceed.

It meant that the Saints players had to wait around an additional 90 minutes before a ball was kicked.

We all wondered would that delay take its toll on the players' preparations but we needn't have worried as they took the lead after just 4 minutes.

Following an important save from Cillian Lynch in goal the Saints drove forward and the influential Chris Joyce played in Michael O'Rowe into the box and his strike from a difficult angle found the net.

The Saints created a number of scoring chances throughout the first half and O'Rowe was unlucky not to add to his tally. His strike partner, Cameron Carter was equally unlucky as Joyce played a lovely ball through to him and his shot brought out a top class save down low from the keeper.

The Saints got their second goal on the half hour mark and this time Carter couldn't be denied. He collected the ball outside the area and under pressure managed to work his way into the area where he turned the defender twice before firing the ball into the bottom corner – a goal of real quality!

Terenure pulled a goal back with a terrific strike from 25 yards that gave Lynch no chance in goal. Lynch then kept his team in it as the opposition piled on the pressure looking to equalise with a brilliant save low to his left.

The second half saw the Saints produce their earlier first half form as they drove towards the Terenure defence.

After 15 minutes they made it 3-1 as a high ball saw Joyce race clear and lob the ball over the advancing keeper.

The opposition looked to have grabbed a second as Lynch produced a great save but the ball spun away from him and was heading into the net until Jack Owens threw himself in the way and cleared it off the line.

The Saints responded to this with another goal as O'Rowe powered forward and played the ball into the path of Charlie Madigan who gave the keeper no chance.

The Saints are currently joint leaders of the league and this was an important victory for the team as Terenure breathe down their neck in third place.

It was a well deserved win and a fantastic team performance from all the players that will give them the confidence to hopefully go on and win the title.

SKB: Cillian Lynch, Jamie Barnes, Kann Cuker, Gavin Lynch, Jason Rooney, Adam Lambe, Chris Joyce, Cian Byrne, Michael O'Rowe, Cameron Carter, Ben Greene, Charlie Madigan, Eddie Moore, Conor Kiernan, Jack O'Reilly

Senior Season Kicks Off



Our Senior Section season still runs from late August to May (thankfully) rather than any calendar year football.

A number of seasons ago we moved our two Senior Section teams from the AUL to the Leinster Senior League. Since that time the Saints have been busy establishing themselves among the more elite teams participating in the Leinster Senior League.

The Senior Sunday team look on push on this season in the LSL Sunday Major League as they continue their push towards Intermediate football, the top level in the LSL.

To date they have only played three games winning their home games 3-0 and 2-0 but were desperately unlucky to lose their first away game 2-1. Having done really well to get back on level terms in the second half of the game they were the victims of a late goal from the opposition.

So if they can continue to build on these first few results it should see them progress up the leagues for next season.

Meanwhile our Senior Saturday team have got off to a flyer in the LSL Saturday Major 1B league. They have won four of their first five games scoring a total of 19 goals.

Now we have to mention the fact that ace striker Keith Rooney has scored 8 of that total in the five games played to date.

Over the years we have actively encouraged players that are finishing up their schoolboy football with the Club to go on and join the Senior Section. This policy is really starting to pay dividends as approximately 80% of the players with the Senior Section have played some if not all of the schoolboy football with the Club.

In fact seven or eight of the group were also coaches in our Little Saints Coaching Academy during their teenage years – true Club men!

We are also delighted to welcome four ex-SKB schoolboy players to the group who were born in 2000 – our first millennials!!!

SKB/BOHS Updates



Our Under 15 SKB/Bohs team finished the first stage of the Airtricity National League as runners up in their table – only a point behind St Pats and now progress to Stage 2 of the programme. This second stage is in a smaller group of four teams where we will face Finn Harps, Limerick and Shamrock Rovers. The top

two teams from this group then go on to compete the semi-final and the final of the National League.

The Under 17s team remain unbeaten and are top of their group with just a few games left to play. The top four teams from this league go on to play a knock out competition with the top four teams from the other league so this SKB/Bohs side are in with a great chance for well deserved honours.

Meanwhile congratulations to the SKB/Bohs Under 19s team who came back from 1-0 down to win 2-1 in the Airtricity Enda McGullin Cup final recently. There were twelve ex-St Kevins Boys schoolboy players involved in this game with six of our players on each team.

The winners of this cup now go on to take part in the UEFA Champions League Youth Cup where they will play a team from Denmark. Their first game is in Denmark on 3rd October with the home leg on 24th October. Best of luck fellahs

Saints SSG Games in Ellenfield



There was mixed fortunes for our Small Sided Games teams in Ellenfield recently as three of our teams took to the pitch. Our Under 12 DDSL Sunday 1 team (pictured above) were first up as they faced runaway league leaders, Greystones. The Saints were without their regular goalkeeper, Aaron Cooling who was out having broken his wrist so Hugh Cummins donned the gloves for the game. It has to be said that the Saints certainly put it up to a very good Greystones team in the first half with both Cian Ashmore and Barra O'Reilly getting the better of the opposition rear-guard time and time again but they couldn't find the breakthrough they deserved. All over the pitch the Saints looked dominant as they never gave the opposition time to settle into the game – biting into every tackle. Cummins in goal made a number of telling saves in the first half to deny Greystones and on the half-time whistle the score stood at 0-0. The second half proved to be a different affair as Greystones scored twice early on to give themselves a perfect cushion. Despite the best efforts from the Saints they were unable to grab a goal back early enough to give themselves a chance in the game. Greystones scored again to make it 3-0 late in the game and with time running out the Saints managed to get on the scoresheet as Luke Leonard was on hand to turn in the ball from close range. The game finished 3-1 to the opposition but the Saints can certainly hold their heads high as they turned in a terrific performance against an exceptionally strong opposition.

SKB: Hugh Cummins, Kevin Dequina, Ruben O'Grady, Harry Walsh, Tadgh O'Loinsigh, Tomas O'Ceallaigher, Devon Wynne, Tadgh O'Ceallaigher, Cian Ashmore, Barra O'Reilly, Luke Leonard



Our Under 10 DDSL Sunday A1 (pictured above) faced a very slick Drumcondra side who grabbed two early goals that knocked the Saints off their stride. But like all Saints teams they picked themselves up and looked to get back in the game. Now it has to be said that I think this team must have been the unluckiest team in front of goal all weekend! Despite the Drums keeper pulling off 4 or 5 great saves to deny them they also hit the upright a couple of times and the crossbar! Overall the team played well and created some great chances but as they looked to get a foothold in the game the opposition broke and were clinical in front of goal. It wasn't until midway through the second half that the Saints got on the scoresheet with Jake O'Callaghan laying the ball back to Jack Staunton just outside the area who let fly and for once the keeper was beaten. Things will only get better for this team if they continue to battle it

out in games.

SKB: Max Waters, Josh Walsh, Cody Conlan, Callum Cooney, Jake O'Callaghan, Jack Lynch, Jack Staunton, Jordan Mucha, Marcel Schabowski, Jude Browne, Gavin Dooley



Our Under 11 Sunday D 1 team (pictured above – showing that winning spirit) are unbeaten in 17 games to date! Their opposition on the day were St Itas who found out the reason they are unbeaten in all those games. Turning in a scintillating display of attacking football the Saints raced into an early lead and never looked back. Goals from Ryan Merriman (2), Conor Walsh (2), Ben Honan (2) and Harry O'Mahony coupled with a number of important saves from Alistair Anith in goal saw them run out 7-2 winners on the day.

SKB: Alistair Anith, Ryan Merriman, Luke Campion, Ben Honan, Conor Walsh, Ronan Lanigan, Jack Tynan, Anthony O'Reilly, Paddy Hennessey, Cian Davis, Harry O'Mahony

In Profile



Name: Jamie Kernan

Age: 24

Occupation: Trainee Accountant

What is your current involvement with St Kevins? Under 9s Coach, Development Squad Coach

How long did you play for St Kevins?

From the age of 5-13 and then 17-18

What was your favourite position?

Centre half.

Is there any position that you hated playing? No to be honest I liked having a go anywhere, it was exciting playing in a new position, probably because I mainly played CB.

What was your most treasured playing moment? Trip over to Almere in Holland, memories that will last forever, worth more than any trophy.

Do you have any regrets about your playing career? Leaving Kevin's at 13 thinking the grass was greener on other side.

How did you first get involved in coaching? Always something I wanted to do and thought I'd be good at. Did a couple of badges with FAI, then contacted my old coach Dave Molloy and he put me on to the club. From there I went in with the U8s and down to help out with the Little Saints where I met my old Under 8s manager, Terry Dignam who recognised me straight away, nearly 20 years later!!

What trophies have you collected over the years? DDSL leagues & cups and Club tournaments.

How much time per week do you devote to the club? 8 hours per week. 3 hours training with the Under 9s. An hour on Saturday and Sunday for matches. And 3 hours on Saturday with the Development Squad and the Little Saints.

What is your main method of relaxation? Listening to music, it always works on taking you away from the moment you're stuck in.

Favourite team, and if you were manager what change would you make? Liverpool. Don't think I'd change a thing - love the journey the team is on with Klopp and we will win something this year. (If they don't that's what I'd change 😊)

SKB Summer Camp



During the Summer we ran two camps for Under 8s/Under 9s children.

These camps were not widely advertised as we wanted to see could we do it properly. Both camps proved very successful and credit is due to the hard work of Denis Cassidy and his band of helpers.

It is something that we will consider for next year following these trials and details will be announced on our website once formally agreed.

Saints Abroad News

We would like to wish Saints player Brian McManus the very best of luck in his future career. Brian has signed for Preston North End where he will join a growing contingent of Irish players. We expect Brian will make a big impression at his new club. Another ex-Saint, Roland Idowu who played with us from Under 9 to Under 14 has joined Southampton.

Congratulations to Gavin Kilkenny on securing his first professional contract with Bournemouth and to Dara O'Shea who has signed a further two year deal with West Brom. Dara has done particularly well last season with a very impressive loan spell with Hereford. He has now gone out on loan with Exeter City which will further advance his development.

In other news of ex-Saints we were delighted to see Armstrong Okoflex who progressed from our Little Saints to our SSG teams



before his family had to relocate to London for specialist hospital treatment for his sister. We were all sorry to see Armstrong head off as not only was he an exceptional player for us but also a very popular lad with both teammates and all other Club members.

Following a number of years with Arsenal's Academy, and a trip back to face his old teammates in our Academy Cup, he has signed with Celtic FC where we have no doubt he will excel.

Other ex-Saints on the move during the transfer window were Jack Byrne who has joined Kilmarnock in Scotland where we are sure he will make an impression while Robbie McCourt has joined Bohemians.

SKB Internationals

We had a number of players take part in the various Rep of Ireland teams recently with Gavin O'Brien and Colin Conroy lining out for the Under 16s but pride of place has to go to the Kilkenny brothers where Ronan played with the Under 16s in Bulgaria while Gavin played and scored for the Under 19s in Galway!

Snippets



Elliot is happy to bet on another winner

some of us (me included) failed to win anything! Anyway we all had a terrific night out and stories are still being told of the usual "after parties".



We were not surprised to hear that Karl Lambe had been awarded the FAI Coach of the Year Award recently. Karl, as ever, was his usual modest self as he sang the praises of many others in St Kevins Boys from managers and other coaches to those working in the background that he felt had played a major part in him getting to the level where he was considered for the award



Get your gloves back on! Goalkeeper coaching returns to the Clubhouse on Thursday night with Chris Conway. SSG players should report at 5.45pm and non-Premier 11 a side keepers report at 6.40pm

Benefit Match for Popular Saint

Everyone's biggest fear as they get near that 40 years of age mark is suffering an illness that puts financial pressure on you and your family. Unfortunately this is what happened to one of our ex-players, Keith Maher.

Keith suffered a brain haemorrhage a number of months ago and thankfully has pulled through after being in a critical condition for a time. He is now on the long, slow road to recovery necessitating expensive medical treatment.

As Keith played with the Saints at both schoolboy and senior level and also with Tolka Rovers senior team it was fitting that his old teammates would organise a fundraiser to help the family out.

On Saturday 29th September at 4.00pm in St Aidans you will be able to witness the Legends from this era (early 2000s) try and roll back the years in a charity match.

After the Legends game both teams and supporters will adjourn to Home Farm FC for refreshments and a raffle. All proceeds from the raffle and the game will go to the fund for Keith.

We would ask all that remember the many great times Keith gave us as a player to dig deep to help out.

Contact Dave McManus on (087)6307480 or admin@skbfc.com for further information and sponsorship cards.

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